

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
20 May, 1976

AM

10:00 CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

ADMINISTRATION

- A. Dates of next meetings: 16 June, 1976
21 July, 1976
- B. Minutes of April, 1976 meeting.
- C. Confirmation of Appointees to the Joint Committee on Landmarks.
- D. Report of Justice Department on the Old Georgetown Act.
- E. D.C. Bill 1-228, Subdivision in Historic Districts - Report.
- F. American Institute of Planning Bicentennial Planning Award to the Commission of Fine Arts for Smithsonian Exhibit, "Washington, D.C. - Plans and Realities".
- G. 2000 Block of I Street, N.W. - Recommendation for Landmark Status.

SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

A. General Services Administration

- 1. Renovation of Auditors Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, S.W.
- 2. Agriculture Annex Building New Stair Tower Addition.

B. Department of the Navy, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

Relocation of Statue of Benjamin Rush to Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland.

C. D.C. Government, Department of Economic Development

Old Georgetown Act

- 1. OG 76-147, 3000 M Street, N.W., Commercial/Hotel/Office Complex - Resubmission.

20 May, 1976

2. Appendix 1.

Shipstead-Luce Act

Appendix 2.

D. National Park Service, National Capital Parks

1. Siting of Bernardo de Galvez Statue, Virginia Avenue, E Street, and 22nd Street, N.W.
2. Lyndon Baines Johnson Memorial Grove, Footbridge.
3. Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial.

LEGISLATION

- A. H.R. 12778, 94th Congress, "To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to permit the relocation of the John Witherspoon Statue, and for other purposes."
- B. H.R. 13546, 94th Congress, "To authorize the erection of a sculpture entitled 'Delta Solar' on public grounds in the District of Columbia."

INSPECTIONS

A. Freer Gallery of Art

Objects for Acquisition.

B. Smithsonian Institution

Mall Graphics Banner Mockups, 7th Street and Washington Drive, N.W.

C. National Park Service, National Capital Parks

1. Bernardo de Galvez Statue Site, Virginia Avenue, E Street, and 22nd Street, N.W.
2. Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Site, West Potomac Park.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
20 May, 1976

The meeting convened at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts offices at 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Members Present: Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
 Hon. Nicolas Arroyo
 Hon. Kevin Roche
 Hon. Chloethiel Woodard Smith
 Hon. Edward D. Stone, Jr.
 Hon. George A. Weymouth

Staff Present: Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
 Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
 Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson
 Mrs. Nancy N. Lusher
 Mr. David L. Miller

Student Intern Present: Miss Lisa D'Alessandro

National Capital Planning
Commission Staff Present: Mrs. Ellen Gilreath

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Minutes of April 21, 1976 meeting, approved.

B. Dates of next meetings were set at 16 June and 28 July, 1976.

C. Confirmation of Appointees to the Joint Committee on Landmarks. The Assistant Secretary reported that the Mayor of the District of Columbia and the National Capital Planning Commission had approved three of the six members proposed by the Commission of Fine Arts to fill vacant terms in the Joint Committee on Landmarks. The appointment of Mr. James Banks, Mr. Louis Fry, Jr., and Mr. Hugh N. Jacobsen would give the Committee its full complement of members. The Commission unanimously approved the three appointments.

D. Report of the Justice Department on the Old Georgetown Act. The Assistant Secretary reported that a letter had been written to the Justice Department seeking confirmation of the Commission's authority under the Old Georgetown Act to recommend against any construction on a site within that historic district if the site is an important part of the setting of a historic building or in some way protects the public value of the district. The Justice Department reported in

favor of the Commission's authority, and all interested parties had been so informed.

EXHIBIT B

E. D.C. Bill 1-228, Subdivision in Historic Districts, Report. The Assistant Secretary stated that the District of Columbia City Council had passed a bill to provide review of all subdivision requests within historic areas. The review would include seeking the Commission of Fine Arts' advice in the Shipstead-Luce and Old Georgetown areas. Additional review by the Joint Committee on Landmarks and interested citizens groups would be included in the process. Though some additional administrative procedures would be necessary before the new act would go into practice, it was significant that one of the Commission's longstanding concerns about destroying the settings of historic buildings was being dealt with by the city government.

F. American Institute of Planning Bicentennial Planning Award to the Commission of Fine Arts for the Smithsonian Exhibit, "The Federal City - Plans and Realities". The Secretary showed the members a letter received indicating that the award had been made. Mr. Stone suggested that the staff be commended for their efforts in organizing the exhibit. The Secretary told the members that the exhibit, which was being held at the Smithsonian Castle, could be visited while the Commission was in the Mall area inspecting Mall graphics and Freer Gallery acquisitions.

G. 2000 Block of I Street, N.W., Recommendation for Landmark Status. Miss D'Alessandro showed several photographs and slides of this block facing Pennsylvania Avenue across a small triangular park halfway between Georgetown and the White House. She was seeking joint sponsorship of the Commission of Fine Arts and Don't Tear It Down, a citizens preservation group, to present the block to the Joint Committee on Landmarks. She indicated that there was sufficient architectural and historic merit in the block to suggest special treatment in any future planning for the area and that there was a wide range of 19th Century styles represented. The Joint Committee on Landmarks would review the proposal and determine if the entire block or individual buildings should be listed on the local landmarks list and/or the National Register. After some discussion the Commission unanimously endorsed Miss D'Alessandro's proposal.

II. SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

A. General Services Administration

1. Renovation of Auditors' Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, S.W. Mr. Carson told the Commission that the General Services Administration was preparing for an exterior restoration of this large red brick building facing the Mall, as well as two adjacent

annexes. The late-19th Century structures had been altered several times and towers and similar decorative elements removed. Plans included restoration and replacement of these elements so that the building would have its original appearance. Mr. William Hooper of the GSA told the Commission that colors, materials, etc. would be redone to match the original. The Commission unanimously approved the project.

EXHIBIT C

2. Agriculture Annex Building New Stair Tower Addition. Mr. Carson presented photographs and drawings of this modest addition to a building which had originally been designed as a symmetrical structure but only half completed. The addition would be of similar materials in the area to be covered by matching construction. The Commission expressed concern over matching materials and proper detailing, and unanimously approved the project

EXHIBIT D

B. Department of the Navy, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

Relocation of Statue of Benjamin Rush to Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences, National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland. The project was represented by Miss Sylvia Shaffer and Captain D. Russell of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. The Secretary presented photographs and maps of the existing statue in its setting at the Old Naval Observatory near the State Department. He pointed out that the site had been partially removed with construction of the E Street Expressway some years ago and that the present security regulations of the post were not conducive to viewing the statue. The statue would be in the public domain in Bethesda and would remain in the metropolitan area there. The Chairman agreed that the statue was difficult to view in its present location and that the move would result in a better setting. The Commission discussed their reluctance generally to moving pieces of sculpture and in particular to their removal from the Washington area; however, the members unanimously approved the moving to Bethesda of the Benjamin Rush statue.

EXHIBIT E

C. D.C. Government, Department of Economic Development

Old Georgetown Act

1. OG 76-147, 3000 M Street, N.W., Commercial/Hotel/Office Complex - Resubmission. The project was represented by Messers Al Wheeler, J. Wheeler, LeRoy Owens, and Harry Knight. The Assistant Secretary told the members that the Georgetown Board had reviewed revised designs for the project, which had been disapproved several times before, and they had rejected the current plans. A written report from the Georgetown Board was given to the members. Since the May 12 meeting with the Georgetown Board, Mr. Wheeler and his architects had modified their designs in a further effort to accommo-

moderate previous Commission objections. A major concern of both the Commission and the Board had been the scale and compatibility of the M Street frontage of the project with the existing buildings in the area. Mr. Wheeler and his architect showed the Commission their new designs, which the Commission felt showed a marked improvement. The Chairman stated that it was impossible for the Commission to act on the new designs until a written report from the Board was received, required by the Old Georgetown Act. Since the Board had not been given the opportunity to review these designs, the Chairman ruled that they be submitted to the Board at its next meeting on May 26th and that the Zoning Office also be given an opportunity to review the design prior to the next Commission meeting on June 16, 1976.

2. Appendix 1, approved with the exception of OG 76-145, 1318 28th Street, N.W., which was withdrawn from the appendix pending investigation of a complaint from a neighbor.

Shipstead-Luce Act

Appendix 2, approved.

D. National Park Service, National Capital Parks

1. Siting of the Bernardo de Galvez Statue, Virginia Avenue, E Street, and 22nd Street, N.W. The Secretary presented drawings, maps and photographs of the proposed equestrian statue and its location, near the department of State. He indicated that the Park Service intends to locate the statue temporarily at the location on a wooden base so that during the visit of King Carlos of Spain the statue could be officially presented to the people of the United States. Site planning and the actual design of the permanent base would be reviewed later. The Spanish Government was represented by Dr. A. Cano who indicated that his government was willing to cooperate with the U.S. Government completely in the final details of the statue, but that time was of the essence in getting the temporary erection completed prior to the King's visit. The Commission was unanimous in approving the location and stressed their hope that a traditional equestrian base would replace the prow-shaped base indicated in one of the sketches. Dr. Cano said this could be done.

2. Lyndon Baines Johnson Memorial Grove, Footbridge. The project was represented by the designer, Mr. Mead Palmer, and Park Service officials Messers Rowell, Romanowski, Ronsisvalle, Parsons, and Peetz. The Assistant Secretary presented detail drawings of this timber post and beam footbridge. He told of the Commission's previous concern that the bridge be designed with excellent detailing. The members examined the drawings, thanked Mr. Palmer for his efforts, and unanimously approved the designs.

3. Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, design resubmission. The project was represented by the designers, Messers Lawrence Halprin and Dai Williams; Senator Mark Hatfield and Messers Eugene Keogh and James Rowe of the FDR Memorial Commission' and Messers Parsons, Rowell, Romanowski, Ronsisvalle, and Peetz of the National Park Service. The Chairman welcomed Mr. Keogh, the Chairman of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Commission. Mr. Keogh indicated that the Commission had worked long and hard on the design being presented and hoped that the Commission of Fine Arts would continue its constructive participation in the Memorial by approving the designs. Mr. Keogh then introduced Mr. Halprin, who made the presentation. Mr. Halprin told of his efforts to accommodate the Commission's previous recommendations and concerns over the tendence of the project to be too architectural and urban for the setting.

Mr. Halprin carefully explained each feature of the design which was a composite of areas defined by landscaping, granite walls, and a variety of water features including falls and rivulets. He pointed out that the visitor facilities had been relocated to an underground structure, west of the entrance. He also indicated that a great deal of design work was necessary before the structures and walls of the scheme were ready to be called definite designs. The Commission voiced a variety of concerns over the design including the size, amount of architecture, complexity of water events, and appropriateness. The Commission reminded Mr. Halprin that they hoped for a dignified landscape solution to the Memorial, as opposed to complexity and frivolity.

Mr. Roche felt that the memorial could be cut down in size and complexity. He further suggested that extremely careful attention to the details and to potential maintenance problems would be the difference between success and failure on the project. Mr. Stone indicated his confidence that the designers would follow through on detail excellence. The Commission gave its unanimous approval to the early design concepts, with the proviso that detail followup would be necessary to fully judge the design's merit. EXHIBIT F.

III. LEGISLATION

A. H.R. 12778, 94th Congress, "To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to permit the relocation of the John Witherspoon statue, and for other purposes." The Secretary told the members that the Witherspoon statue was presently located at the corner of Connecticut Avenue and N Street, N.W., in a visually prominent location. He showed photographs and indicated that the statue was appropriately placed and made an environmental contribution to the downtown area below Dupont Circle. The statue also formed a focal point for 18th Street at its important juncture with Connecticut Avenue. The statue had been erected on public space in a small park reservation at the same time as the landmark Romanesque style National Presbyterian

Church which stood on an adjacent site. The church had been demolished and a new one built near Van Ness Street and Nebraska Avenue, N.W. The Presbyterians now sought legislation to move the statue to their new complex. The Commission discussed the proposal, feeling that the statue in its present location was a meaningful addition to the cityscape and had become a public amenity. Moving the statue to the remote site of the Presbyterian Headquarters on private land would diminish the public value of the work. The Commission unanimously disapproved the concept of moving the statue as proposed. EXHIBIT G.

B. H.R. 13546, 94th Congress, "To authorize the erection of a sculpture entitled 'Delta Solar' on public grounds in the District of Columbia." The Secretary showed photographs of the sculptor's work indicating that a gift from the Venezuelan people to the United States made this work possible. The Commission had no objection, but felt that proper review over exact designs and location would be necessary. Approval of this concept and the legislation was unanimous.

EXHIBIT H.

IV. INSPECTIONS

A. Freer Gallery of Art

Objects for Acquisition. The Commission, the Secretary, and the Assistant Secretary visited the Freer Gallery and were met by the Director, Dr. Stern. The Commission examined a bowl, a writing set, and several scrolls; all were unanimously approved.

B. Smithsonian Institution

Mall Graphics Banner Mockups, 7th Street and Washington Drive, N.W. The Commission, the Secretary, and the Assistant Secretary were met by Mr. Paul Perrot and Ms. Susan Hamilton of the Smithsonian and Mr. Leroy Rowell of the National Park Service. Two types of banners were installed for inspection. Both were hung from cross arms on the Olmsted light fixtures along the outer gravel walks of the Mall. One type was cloth, the other metal. Since the banners were small and discrete the Commission felt that either type was agreeable.

EXHIBIT I.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Signed,



Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

28 April, 1976

Dear Mr. Scalia:

We have had a number of inquiries on the status of our request for an opinion on the administration of the Old Georgetown Act (Public Law 808). Our letter to you, a copy of which is enclosed, was mailed on March 25, 1976.

In the meantime, an appeal of the action we took has been made to the Mayor's Office, who in turn has referred it to the Corporation Counsel. Therefore any work on our request would be greatly appreciated.

I am also sending you an opinion from a private legal source originating from the Georgetown community on the same issue, and a letter from the National Trust for Historic Preservation supporting their opinion.

Sincerely yours,



Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

Mr. Antonin Scalia
Assistant Attorney General
Office of Legal Counsel
U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20530

Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20530

Mr. J. Carter Brown
Chairman
The Commission of Fine Arts
708 Jackson Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

RECEIVED
THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
WASHINGTON, D. C.
JAN 16 1960

Dear Mr. Brown:

This is in response to your recent letter to Assistant Attorney General Scalia requesting the advice of the Department of Justice as to whether the Commission's authority extends to the right to advise the Government of the District of Columbia on whether to allow construction to proceed on an admittedly historic but "open" building site. Your letter has been referred to me by Mr. Scalia.

The role of the Commission in advising the District of Columbia Government as to the architectural and cultural merits of construction in the "Old Georgetown" district of the National Capital is defined in the Act of September 22, 1950, 64 Stat. 903, describing the extent of that district and dealing with the height, exterior design, and construction of buildings therein. Under section 2 of that Act the Commission of Fine Arts is required to report to the Government of the District of Columbia its recommendations on each application for issuance of a permit for the "construction, alteration, reconstruction, or razing of any building" in the Old Georgetown district. The District Government may thereupon take such actions as it regards proper in the circumstances.

The extent of the Commission's responsibility under the Act is well set-out in the opinion of Attorney General William P. Rogers of January 15, 1960. 41 Op. A.G. 441.

His successors have had no occasion to change the views of the Act expressed by Attorney General Rogers in that opinion, and we believe that reference to its discussion will serve to illuminate the present question as well. As you note, the opinion found no support for the construction of the Old Georgetown Act which would have restricted it in its operation to the protection of existing buildings possessing a demonstrable historical or architectural significance, id., 444-45. Seeing nothing vague or ambiguous in the language used by Congress to denote the scope of the Commission's responsibility, the Attorney General pointed to the comprehensive language used: The plans which must be submitted to the Fine Arts Commission are those for the "construction, alteration, reconstruction, or razing of any building," in the Old Georgetown district. The Attorney General also noted that the terms of the Act included not only all construction in the Old Georgetown district generally, but also included authority for the Commission to consider such common appurtenances to construction as signs, outside lights, fences, and walls, id. Such appurtenances, if uncontrolled, might readily disturb the general architectural appearance of the area.

Those terms have not since changed, nor has the responsibility of the Commission to review and make known its recommendations on all applications for construction permits within the district. The Commission's duty is couched in sweeping terms - to report

its recommendations, including such changes, if any, as in the judgment of the Commission are necessary and desirable to preserve the historic value of said Georgetown district.

That historic value is in many respects architectural, as a living example of the varied architectural styles and measures of our past. Thus, the Commission report is to consider

the exterior architectural features,
height, appearance, color, and texture
of the materials of exterior construction
which is subject to public view from a
public highway.

The scope of the Commission's responsibility, therefore, is quite apparent. And it has been instructed to recommend "such changes, if any, as` ... are necessary and desirable to preserve the historic value of [Old Georgetown]."

It might be said that the Commission's recommendations and its report on the exterior architectural features, height, appearance, color, and texture of proposed construction activity do not encompass the duty to report on new construction which involves no physical change in existing structures. That contention, of course, is rejected in Attorney General Rogers' opinion: "[the Act] extends to the exterior construction or alteration of all buildings in the Old Georgetown district, . . ." Id., at 450. Nor can the Commission's duty to report rightfully be interpreted as being confined to comments on the exterior of buildings as distinguished from the presence of the building itself in a particular place. For the Commission's duty extends not to mere alterations or reconstructions involving exterior or cosmetic changes, but to new construction and to complete razings as well. It would be incongruous at the least to say that a statute which requires comment on construction (presence of a new building) and on razing (destruction of an existing one) nonetheless somehow forbids comment on the effects which the new building will exert on the older ones surrounding it.

"Construction" and "razing" mark the end points of building activity, and it is difficult to believe that the Congress would have used such comprehensive language were its intent to allow the Commission to comment on minor changes in exterior facades but to forbid a Commission recommendation concerning the construction itself. Thus, our appraisal of the Commission's duty to recommend such changes as are necessary and desirable in its judgment to preserve the historic value of the Old Georgetown district leads us to conclude that the Commission may properly comment upon and recommend as to whether construction is appropriate in a given case, and as to the effect of an imposing new structure occupying the grounds historically associated with an open and spacious garden or green surrounding a valued example of early architecture and design.

Nor do we believe that the Commission's recommendation to the District Government advising against construction in a particular site can as such amount to an unconstitutional taking. The Commission's recommendation itself has no operative effect: it can neither approve nor deny permission to build in a particular site, for its report is but an expert recommendation to the Government of the District of Columbia.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Leon Ulman".

Leon Ulman
Deputy Assistant Attorney General
Office of Legal Counsel

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

NICOLAS ARROYO

CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH

JANE O. DART

EDWARD STONE, JR.

KEVIN ROCHE

GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-347-5334

26 May, 1976

Dear Mr. Hooper:

The Commission of Fine Arts approved the renovation scheme for the Auditors Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, S.W., at its May 20th meeting. We commend the General Services Administration for undertaking such a meticulous restoration of this highly visible and importantly sited building. As you progress on the project we certainly hope that you will feel free to call on the Commission or its staff for any advice or technical assistance.

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. William Hooper
Architect, Region 3
General Services Administration
Washington, D.C. 20407

AJH
6-2

Exhibit C.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

NICOLAS ARROYO

CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH

JANE O. DAPT

EDWARD STONE, JR.

KEVIN ROCHE

GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5524

26 May, 1976

Dear Mr. Bellam:

During our May 20th meeting, the Commission of Fine Arts approved the designs for the Agriculture Annex Building New Stair Tower Addition. Our only concern is that the selection of materials and placement of vent grills and other mechanical equipment be handled with care. As the Commission or its staff can be of assistance to you on this project, please call on us.

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Charles A. Bellam
Chief, Project Execution Branch (3PTX)
Region 3
General Services Administration
Washington, D.C. 20407



Exhibit D.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

NICOLAS ARROYO

CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH

JANE O. DART

EDWARD STONE, JR.

KEVIN ROCHE

GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004
202-343-6324

26 May, 1976

Dear Ms. Shaffer:

Relocation of the Benjamin Rush statue from the Old Naval Observatory site to the University of Health Sciences, Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland was approved by the Commission of Fine Arts at its May 20th meeting. Though the Commission has traditionally opposed moving sculpture out of the District of Columbia, we feel that the proposed location within the Washington area will make the sculpture more accessible to the public than its present location. Please contact us on any site and location designs as you proceed with the project. The Commission remains concerned about getting the best possible setting for this important landmark.

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Ms. Sylvia Shaffer
Public Information Officer
Department of the Navy
Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
Washington, D.C. 20372

re: BUMED:0010:sws
3 May 1976



THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CALTER BROWN, Chairman

NICOLAS PEROZ

CHLOETHILL WOODARD SMITH

JANP O. LEE

EDWARD STONE, JR.

KEVIN LEE

GEORGE WENWORTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-3322

25 May, 1976

Dear Jack,

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on May 21, 1976, reviewed the latest designs for the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial in West Potomac Park.

The Commission was pleased to see several changes in the design that will help answer questions raised in the review of the prior submission.

There is greater continuity in the sequence of spaces; they flow together more than the precisely defined rooms as originally presented. The spaces themselves are less architectural, as well, although this characteristic is still present to a questionable degree due to the character of the stone walls. A lot depends on how well these wall surfaces are softened through planting.

The relocation of the interpretive center and other facilities off to the left of the main approach is a definite improvement. So is their suppressed treatment. While they may be a necessary part of the program, they do not have to be a conspicuous event of the experience in visiting the memorial. They should be played down as much as possible.

The emphasis given to the final space that fans out toward the Tidal Basin provides a necessary focal point for the monument. A sense of arrival, a statement that is more important here than elsewhere, is fundamental to any kind of sequential design. The effectiveness of the memorial as a total experience depends to a great extent on how well this final event works. It should be very carefully studied.

Finally a number of other details may also benefit from additional scrutiny. The texture and scale of the stones in the wall, the way in which the sculpture and inscriptions will be integrated, the sense of continuity in the sequence of water forms are all complex considerations, and the way they add to the total

...2/

design is important. Leading the visitor behind a cascade of water is tricky, and this may tend to detract from the overall design if not handled with restraint. The architects might give this additional thought.

The general apprehension the Commission has about the way this design is to be worked out stems from its conviction that the end result must have the dignity and elegance of a memorial in the Capital, and not end up more like an urban playground than an inspiring, contemplative water garden. To this end, the nature of the materials used becomes of cardinal importance.

If later on for cost reasons substitutions should be proposed, the Commission would be very strenuously against proceeding with the project.

We understand that further design studies will be ready some time early this fall. Our September meeting is tentatively scheduled for the 15th, and we will be happy to review the matter at that time.

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Manus J. Fish
Director, National Capital Parks
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

NICOLAS ARROYO

CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH

JANE O. DART

EDWARD STONE, JR.

KEVIN ROCHE

GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

8 June, 1976

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on May 20, 1976, considered H.R. 12778, which would authorize the relocation of the statue of John Witherspoon.

The Commission is opposed to this legislation.

The statue of John Witherspoon, like the statues of so many of our historical figures that line our parks and avenues, adds an interest and richness to the city that sets it apart from other urban areas and makes Washington unique.

Instead of removing the statue of Witherspoon from its present site, the Commission recommends that a copy be made at private expense and erected on a suitable site on the grounds of the new National Presbyterian Church, located at Nebraska Avenue and Van Ness Street, N.W.

John Witherspoon was a man of national importance, noted for his religious, political, and educational activities in the United States. A signer of the Declaration of Independence and a member for several years of the Continental Congress, Witherspoon was also a leader of the Presbyterian Church and President of the College of New Jersey, now known as Princeton University. The statue's present site is of high visibility, on Major L'Enfant's radial avenue connecting the White House with what has become one of the most densely utilized downtown streets in the Capital. This is a national patriotic memorial and should remain on public land downtown in the Capital City.

...2/

Exhibit G.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised us they have no objection to the submission of this report.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. Carter Brown', with a stylized, flowing script.

*J. Carter Brown
Chairman*

*Hon. Lucien N. Nedzi
Chairman
Subcommittee on Library and Memorials
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515*

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

NICOLAS ARROYO

CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH

JANE O. DART

EDWARD STONE, JR.

KEVIN ROCHE

GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

8 June, 1976

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on May 20, 1976, considered H.R. 13546, a bill to authorize the erection of a sculpture entitled "Delta Solar" on public grounds in the District of Columbia.

The Commission has no objection to this legislation.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised they have no objection to the submission of this report.

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Hon. Wayne L. Hays
Chairman
Committee on House Administration
Suite H-326, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

NICOLAS ARROYO

CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH

JANE O. BART

EDWARD STONE, JR.

KEVIN ROCHE

GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ARLINGTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
702-545-5324

26 May, 1976

Dear Paul,

The Commission was delighted to meet with you and Susan Hamilton on the Mall, May 20th, to inspect the mockups for the Mall identification banners. Though we discussed the possibility of making the banners longer, adding streamers, and the advantages of rigid versus flexible materials, we feel that you and your consultants are on the right track. The Commission had the unanimous position that the Smithsonian and the Park Service can pursue the present character in the most expeditious and practical manner. If we can be of further service in the matter, please give us a call.

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Paul N. Perrot
Assistant Secretary
for Museum Programs
Smithsonian Institution
1000 Jefferson Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20560

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

20 May, 1976

PROJECT

ADDRESS AND OWNER

OG 76-

136 1216 30th Street, N.W.

Juliet G. Davis

Brick front steps.

ACTION: Recommend permit be issued to complete work already under way. New stair to match adjoining stair on 1214 as closely as possible. Regret decision to demolish original cast iron stair, which should have been restored. 4/28/76

137 2800 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

Benjamin Jacobs

Two structures on property, commercial and hotel use (resubmission refer to OG 76-124).

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Recommend additional massing study, particularly along Pennsylvania Avenue and Rock Creek Park. Preliminary studies appear too massive and monolithic from these important areas. Facade studies may help with recommended efforts to achieve more of an appropriate scale. 4/27/76

139 1061 31st Street, N.W.

Diana S. Reuter

Erection of sign (resubmission refer to OG 76-132).

ACTION: Issue permit. 5/4/76

140 M Street, Wisconsin Avenue, &

C. & O. Canal, N.W.

D.C. Realty & Development Corp.

Modify a group of existing warehouse, factory, and office buildings into a unified shopping mall (resubmission refer to OG 76-123).

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Westernmost building on M Street should be restudied in terms of retaining more of existing character and geometry. This should include retention of second floor double hung sash and elimination of arcade on M Street. Consider traditional building line shop fronts on either side of existing door. On Wisconsin Avenue facade suggest elimination of mansard roof element and further discussion with Georgetown Board on window and arcade elements. 4/28/76

141 1227 33rd Street, N.W.

Samuel P. Pardoe, Inc.

Remove existing front porch, construct steps, and paving.

ACTION: Issue permit. 5/13/76

142 1055 Thomas Jefferson Street, N.W.

Georgetown Inland Corp.

Add brick ventilation shaft to new building.

ACTION: Issue permit. Brick shall match existing. 5/3/76

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

20 May, 1976

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
OG 76-143	3214 Prospect Street, N.W. King & Sandy, Inc.	Renovation of an existing garage into a retail shop (resubmission refer to OG 76-129).
ACTION:	Issue permit. Submit brick and mortar sample. 5/13/76	
144	1207 31st Street, N.W. Mark Tinaz	Sign (resubmission refer to OG 76-128).
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Shape is still too complicated. Proposal is otherwise approved. Suggest elimination of pediment feature. 5/13/76	
145	1318 28th Street, N.W. David Abramson	Three-storey masonry addition with attic to existing residence.
ACTION:	Issue permit. Submit brick and mortar sample. 5/13/76	
146	2821 N Street, N.W. Bernard Mandelkern	Construct new entry stair.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit until detailed drawings have been submitted, reviewed, and approved. Exact designs, materials, and details should be submitted. Since house seems to be paired with adjacent house, accurate restoration should be considered. 5/13/76	
148	1342 28th Street, N.W. Robert Wallace	Install garage in front elevation of building (resubmission refer to OG 76-92).
ACTION:	Issue permit. 5/13/76	
149	M Street, Wisconsin Avenue, & C. & O. Canal, N.W. D.C. Realty & Development Corp.	Modify a group of existing warehouse, factory, and office buildings into a unified shopping mall (resubmission refer to OG 76-140).
ACTION:	Do not issue permit until further development drawings have been submitted, reviewed, and approved. Basic schematics have been approved subject to further detail design development and submission of brick samples. 5/13/76	
150	3339 M Street, N.W. Spencer Diamond	Face existing show windows with aluminum, repair floor and roof, install new mansard roof (resubmission refer to OG 76-101).
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. See previous action, OG 76-101. Commission has not and does not approve existing metal canopy. Additional use of this decorative motif is not an appropriate or complimentary Georgetown detail and should not be repeated. 5/13/76	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT

20 May, 1976

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
SL 76-43	499 South Capitol Street, S.E. Marfair Joint Venture	Construct proposed office building as per plans approved by CFA SL 68-36.
ACTION:	See previous approval, SL 68-36. Request material samples and landscaping plan. Though permit for footings, etc. may be issued, a landscaping plan for trees on the perimeter of the building should be worked out between the project sponsors and appropriate District agencies. This is an important site within close proximity to the Capitol and should be finished in an appropriate manner. 4/27/76	
47	2520 M Street, N.W. Oliver T. Carr	Erect office retail accessory part structure in combination with building at 2535 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
ACTION:	Issue permit. Recommend that tree planting scheme on all sides of the project be coordinated between the project sponsors and the appropriate District of Columbia agencies. 4/27/76	
48	2535 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Oliver T. Carr	Erect multiple dwelling, retail, office accessory part structure in combination with building at 2520 M Street, N.W. (resubmission refer to SL 76-10).
ACTION:	Issue permit. Recommend that tree planting scheme on all sides of the project be coordinated between the project sponsors and the appropriate District of Columbia agencies. 4/27/76	
49	1318 22nd Street, N.W. Holland Investments	Construct a five-floor plus basement apartment house.
ACTION:	Design of building approved, as well as brick sample, but recommend a more neutral mortar. Please erect sample panel on site for final approval. Also request landscape plan showing street trees and screen planting around parking lot prior to issuance of building permit. 4/27/76	
51	3425 Oakwood Terrace, N.W. Cox & Company	Replace old addition in back of house, to be breakfast room off kitchen and build deck above where porch was.
ACTION:	Issue permit. New sash shall match existing. 4/28/76	
52	1921 Park Road, N.W. Joyce Stakley	Replace existing wood front porch floor with new concrete slab. Remove existing roof.
ACTION:	Issue permit. Recommend installation of lattice in panels between grade, piers, slab, and steps. Also recommend foundation landscaping around porch. 5/4/76	

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
16 June, 1976

AM

10:00 CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

ADMINISTRATION

- A. Dates of next meetings: 28 July, 1976
15 September, 1976
- B. Minutes of May, 1976 meeting.
- C. Projected Study of Mall and Adjoining Buildings by National Capital Planning Commission, Smithsonian Institution, National Park Service, and Commission of Fine Arts - Report.
- D. Massachusetts Avenue - Buildings for Landmarks Designation.
- E. Washington, D.C. Bridges for Landmark Designation.
- F. Signs and Awnings in Georgetown - Article for Publication in the Georgetowner.

SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

- A. Federal Reserve Board

Proposed Siting of Sculpture, Federal Reserve Board Headquarters, 22nd and C Streets, N.W.

- B. D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development

Gangplank Restaurant, Site "E", Southwest Waterfront - Revised Designs.

- C. D.C. Government, Department of Economic Development

Shipstead-Luce Act

1. SL 76-56, 1776 D Street, N.W., Daughters of the American Revolution Headquarters, Proposed Driveway and Parking.

2. Appendix 1.

Old Georgetown Act

1. OG 76-164, 2800 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Office, Hotel and Retail over Plaza and Parking Deck.

16 June, 1976

2. OG 76-165, 3000 M Street, N.W., Hotel/Office/Commercial Complex.

3. Appendix 2.

D. Department of the Army, Institute of Heraldry

1. Distinguished Service Medal, Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences.

2. Distinguished Public Service Medal, Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences.

3. Exceptional Service Medal, Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences.

4. Outstanding Public Service Medal, Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences.

LEGISLATION

H.J. Res. 954, 94th Congress, "To authorize the Committee for an American Hungarian Bicentennial Monument, Incorporated, to erect a monument in honor of the late Colonel Michael Korvats de Fabrici in the District of Columbia or its environs."

